

Attention HR: Immediate Action May Be Necessary

FLYER

051-301
August 30, 2001

TO: Chief, HRMS

SUBJ: President Signs Federal Firefighters Retirement Age Fairness Act

The Office of Personnel Management (OPM) has issued Benefits Administration Letter (BAL) 01-111 that contains the following information on the Federal Firefighters Retirement Age Fairness Act.

On August 20, 2001, the President signed the Federal Firefighters Retirement Age Fairness Act. This law increases the mandatory separation age of firefighters under CSRS and FERS to age 57. Prior to the enactment of this act, firefighters were subject to mandatory separation at age 55.

This Act was effective on the date of signing. **Any notice of mandatory separation of a firefighter with the date of separation on or after August 20, 2001 is ineffective and the employee may continue to work in his or her fire fighting position.** Any mandatory separation at age 55 after the enactment of the Federal Firefighters Retirement Age Fairness Act will be an erroneous separation subject to cancellation. Alternatively, the employee may elect to accept voluntary retirement under the CSRS or FERS firefighter retirement provisions.

You can view and download BAL 01-111 at www.opm.gov/asd/pdf/2001/01-111.pdf. You may need to try this site at a later time due to technical difficulties.

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